

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, SEPTEMBER 10, 1897. THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

State. State Treasurer—J. S. BEACON, of Westfield. Auditor General—LEVI G. McCAULEY, of Chester. County. Sheriff—CLARENCE E. FRYOR, of Scranton. District Attorney—JOHN R. JONES, of Blakely. Prothonotary—JOHN COPELAND, of Carbondale. Treasurer—W. S. LANGSTAFF, of Scranton. Clerk of the Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS, of Scranton. Recorder—CHARLES HUETER, of Scranton. Register—WILLIAM K. BECK, of Moscow. Jury Commissioner—CHARLES WIGGINS, of Scranton. Election day, November 2.

Resolved, That the platform adopted at the National convention of Democracy in 1896 be endorsed fully and without reserve. Plank Second in the Platform of the Lackawanna Democracy, adopted Aug. 24, 1897.

General Reader's Retirement.

The episode which culminated yesterday in the publication of the announcement of the resignation by General Reader of the secretaryship of the commonwealth is, of course, unfortunate, but it is probable that its importance is being greatly exaggerated. Inasmuch as circumstances had arisen which were calculated to occasion embarrassment to the governor were General Reader to remain in his official position, the method chosen for the avoidance of such embarrassment was the only one available. These circumstances appear to have been an outgrowth of a recent clash in policy between the executive and the legislative wings of government, and the governor is not to be blamed for desiring to have in his cabinet of advisers persons fully in accord with his views. That the causes of separation were political rather than personal is shown in the cordial language in which the professor by General Reader of his resignation and its acceptance by Governor Hastings were effected.

The guild of journalism, we may add, receives a conspicuous compliment in the nomination of Colonel James H. Lambert to fill the vacancy thus created. This nomination indicates a discriminating wish on the part of the governor to promote the one member of his cabinet who by diligent attention to duty and fine executive instinct has made perhaps the clearest impress upon public favor of the gentlemen now serving at Harrisburg by executive appointment. As commissioner of insurance Colonel Lambert has entirely vindicated the wisdom of his original selection; and as secretary of the commonwealth he will combine the highest executive qualifications with the characteristic of implicit loyalty. Not simply the giver and recipient of this reward for merit but also the commonwealth are entitled to congratulations.

In the meantime, Republicans throughout the state would do well to discount current rumors of a renewal of factional warfare. There can be no serious fight this fall, for the sufficient reason that there is nothing to fight for; and as for next year, sufficient unto the day is the turmoil thereof.

If this weather shall continue much longer a posse comitatus will need to be appointed to search for Hon. John Frost.

And the Baron Pays the Piper. The other day the Chicago and Alton railroad started railway circles in Chicago by announcing a sudden drop in the freight rate on anthracite from Chicago to Kansas City amounting to 33 1-3 per cent. The rate had been \$3 per ton and the Alton people lowered it to \$2, one of them explaining that to the road could make more money hauling anthracite than it does hauling provisions at the ruling rates. This is not doubted; but it serves as an interesting testimony that anthracite hereafter, on roads which charge a flat freight rate, has been getting very much the worst of it. Nothing in the line of commodities is more easily transported than anthracite coal. It is loaded into the car automatically and the car can be shipped through to its destination without re-loading and with little if any loss in transit. The only cost to the railway company is for the car, the superintendence of weighing, the motive power and the wear and tear. Yet here we have an authoritative acknowledgement away out in Chicago that the customary freight rate on this article of general necessity has been in the neighborhood of 33 1-3 per cent. higher than what other goods, more difficult to handle, can be transported for at a satisfactory profit to the carrier.

All this, of course, is an old story in the anthracite region, but it is a condition of affairs calculated to create false impressions elsewhere. If as a result of this reduction of 33 1-3 per cent in the freight rate on anthracite the retail price of that fuel should drop \$1 per ton in Kansas City, the credit would promptly be given to the railroads and the Kansas City press would round with tributes to their generosity. But if, at a later time, the old freight rate should be restored, those same papers, we may be sure, would blame the ensuing advance in the retail price upon the "robber barons" of the southern "coal trust" and would make the heavens re-echo with frenzied shrieks against their "insane" rambles with human necessity. Yet all this time the poor "baron" would be receiving for his coal at the mouth of the mine one unchanged price and neither he nor his employees would get one farthing of benefit from the fluctuations in the retail price at Kansas City. If the prejudice which has in late years been created in the public mind

against the producers of anthracite could in every instance be traced to its source and brought face to face with the exact facts, much if not all of it would disappear for very shame.

Dr. Andrews' insistence upon the acceptance of his resignation was the only alternative open to him in consideration of the evident fact that many of the trustees of Brown secretly hate him for the friends he has made. They lert to the storm in asking him to reconsider; but had he taken them at their word, the knife of adroit backstabbing would soon have penetrated to his vitals. It is an unfortunate episode throughout, and the only consolation derivable from it is in the reflection that the ligots who have hounded Dr. Andrews represent only their own small number, and by no means stand for the American people as a whole.

The White Flag.

A member of the Virginia Republican committee addresses to the Rochester Post-Express a long and wrathful letter repelling the insinuation that because the Republicans of that state have decided not to march in a gubernatorial election that they are guilty towards the burden of his communication, apart from its heat, is to the effect that inasmuch as the machinery of elections is wholly in the control of an unscrupulous enemy and an honest count out of the question, the Republicans of Virginia are justified in saving their ammunition until a more propitious season.

But when is such a season likely to appear if the Republicans themselves lift no hand to beckon it forward? How can an effective party organization be kept up if it is not occasionally afforded an opportunity to test its strength? Providence, it is recorded in the adage, helps those who help themselves. Very rarely, even in that capricious and uncertain pastime called politics, does Providence come along and carry on to victory a candidate or a party that makes on his own account no positive, affirmative effort.

From the excited tone of this Virginian's letter, a letter keyed to an unnatural pitch, it seems fair to infer that all is not as it should be among the Republican committeemen of Virginia. There have been times and places when members of the state committee of one party have acted on a secret understanding with the opposition. We have no knowledge that such a condition has ever prevailed in Virginia; but the Republicans of the north would have greater confidence in their political brethren in the land of Washington if the latter would give fewer of these periodical exhibitions of a tired feeling. The time is opportune for a stiffening of backbones in the vicinity of the Merrimac and the James.

We take leave to say that the circulation of the Truth is greater than that of all the other Scranton dailies combined, and they needn't get angry about it, either.—Scranton Truth.

Get angry at such a humorous claim? We should say not. It only makes those who know smile.

The American Railway League.

There has been formed in Chicago an organization which if it realizes the expectations of its promoters, will one day be able to turn the scale in a national election. It is called the American Railway League, and while in detail its purposes are yet so much in a secret, in a general sense its endeavor will, it is said, be to bring to bear on legislatures, municipal, state and federal, the concentrated influence of workers and capitalists engaged in railroading for honest, intelligent and considerate legislation affecting the traffic in transportation.

The League, as one of its exploiters puts it, does not plan to have anything to do with the problems that arise between employers and employed, for it wishes to bring both classes together to work for objects of benefit to both. In so far as it does enter this field it will oppose itself sharply to the violence in the dealings between the two and will discountenance strikes, Debsism and anarchy of all kinds. Neither does the League propose to be a substitute for the brotherhoods that already exist among the different classes of railroad men. It will leave the brotherhoods of engineers, of firemen, of conductors, of men and of telegraphers to carry on their own work, and will take to itself instead a special sphere of activity, in which all are equally interested. This, of course, the political activity which, in the League, will make especially its own in all phases, from the technical legislation needed from councils and state legislatures to the great questions of public interest which are decided by the people of the whole country in their federal elections.

The president of the league, R. S. Kaylor, of Columbus, O., gives these additional particulars:

The American Railway League was formed because the railway men of the country needed an organization through which they could better effect to the political power they possess. It will be primarily a political organization, working in a broad-minded way for the welfare of all railway men. The first task we have before us is work at the polls. We wish to see fair men elected as officers who can be trusted to work for the interests of their constituents and not merely for the welfare of their own pockets. We shall be strictly non-partisan in this and aim always for the success of the best man. The next set of objects we have is to secure necessary legislation in railroad matters. We wish, for instance, to make it compulsory for the railroads to use the improved coupler system on account of the greater safety it gives. We shall work for a law making the interlocking system at crossings compulsory. Important as this system is for the safety of trains there is not a single state in the union which requires it. Another good law would be one abolishing grade crossings wherever that is practicable. We are against the attempts that are made from time to time to secure a 2-cent a mile fare, and we shall do our best to defeat such measures wherever they are brought forward. We recognize that anything that cuts down the receipts of the railroad companies in that way would react on us and cause the reduction of wages. We are further against the free pass system for reasons of railway economy, as well as on account of the amount of influence that is exercised directly or indirectly on railroad companies by means of it. Our plans do not contemplate at present any direct activity in national political affairs, but when an emergency arises I think we shall undoubtedly do our share to bring about intelligent views.

It is evident that such an organization would be judged less by its promises than by its results but if the aims outlined above are steadfastly kept in view and the tendency resisted to transform

the league into a tender to the personal ambitions of its organizers and leaders, much good can undoubtedly be accomplished. This is a day of combination and co-operation. Labor has a good right to its capital to cut off the mutuality of interests and conservation of energies.

A man would be considered a fool who would break into a house about a burglar. He would not find out about it until he had found out what were the views of the intruder on the monetary question. Wilkes-Barre claims the greater portion.

Let the Record man, when really beset by burglars, blaze away; but do not encourage him in disturbing the peace by a nervous peppering at phantoms.

The report that a bolt from the Republican state ticket is being organized in Allegheny county, coupled with other strange developments and prognostications, indicates at least a relief from dulness in the politics of the near future.

The United States senate, in Mark Hanna's opinion, is "the greatest and best legislative body in the world." Mark should spare the feelings of the Mugwumps.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"R"—Court House square was once the home of wild cats. The last one we believe was killed by Rittner Griffin.

"Mary"—The earl claims 1,500,000 inhabitants. Wilkes-Barre claims the greater portion.

"George"—The answer to your question will be found in the "Scranton Truth," published during the silver craze.

"X. T."—No; Mr. Finn and George Washington were not born on the same day the month.

"Inquirer"—The moon is 238,550 miles from the earth; this doubtless accounts for the fact that it is so far away that the Democratic party believe that it is made of green cheese.

"Anxious"—Yes; Colonel Fitzsimmons is undoubtedly the boy orator of the local Democracy.

"Voter"—We are unable to answer the question which Jos appears to be on the fence at present.

"Constant Reader"—The benches on Court House square are not for ladies. They are for the convenience of looters by day and hoodlums at night.

"Sarah"—Have patience. You doubtless know more than any other person present; but in a few years you will experience many surprises concerning yourself.

"Taxpayer"—The plan of imposing fines for felony seems to exist only in Scranton.

"Clarabel"—Mr. Schmitt's crop, of course, is harvested. You doubtless know more than any other person present; but in a few years you will experience many surprises concerning yourself.

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tered were appalling. He saw families burrowing in cellars under their children on a week they earned among them; men who, after managing to hold their families together for a week, would cheerfully give something to help the many who were poorer, and who would cry out: "We do not want alms; we are not beggars; we hate to sit here day by day idle and useless; help us to work—we want no other help; why is it that we can have nothing to do?" They would first run into debt until they could get no more credit; there was nothing for them to do but to solicit help or starve. Laboring men were so poor that he felt heeds over head in debt. The recollection of it led him, when an old man, to declare, as nearly as I can recall the words: "Never run into debt! Avoid pecuniary obligations as you would disease or famine. If you have fifty cents, and can get any more for a week, buy a peck of corn, and then go and parch it and feed on it rather than owe anybody a dollar."

Now, it has been this kind of experience that thousands of worthy men have been undergoing in some degree at times in the past few years, and many of them yet. But they are told by some orators that such things never happened in the past, or in the "good old times." This is the kind of Labor Day nonsense that I take exception to, because it is not only untrue, but mischievous. This into the old Philadelphia, the Western and the Beneficial Savings funds and into building societies, and many other places, and who today own more houses than the whole city contained before consolidation, is alone proof of the steady, continuous advance of the workingmen and their families in Philadelphia. Again, the present mayor of Philadelphia sprang from the ranks of the workingmen, and he and his sterling predecessor likewise came from the ranks of honest and self-respecting poverty, beginning life as an errand boy, with a coffee can under his arm as he trudged along every morning to open shop. And, along the thoroughfares of the city is true of a thousand other posts conspicuous in politics, in the professions, in trade, in agriculture, in the various walks of life, by Philadelphia workingmen or their boys moving along the lines of frugality and thrift. These would be a few of the instances of the kind of "good old times" that our orator today—the truth that encourages, and not the sophistries that debute, "the good old times" in which honest-hearted fellow in his temporary troubles.

POVERTY NOT INCREASING.

From the Providence Journal.

No form of pessimism seems more firmly lodged in the minds of certain classes of people than that which holds that under the operation of modern civilization, with its industrial system, poverty is ever increasing in extent and in depth. There are of course many avowed facts to refute such belief; some of them that have just been grouped together by Colonel Carroll D. Wright were the other day considered in these columns. But none of these facts seem to make much impression on some people; with utter indifference to the evidence presented to them, they go right on believing that the poor are constantly growing in numbers and sinking farther in misery. Nor is the slightest credit given to the statement: "It cannot be denied that great accumulations of wealth in the hands of a few go along with the process by which the poor are crowded down in deeper depths of poverty and more and more the multitude on the brink is precipitated into the abyss of hopeless misery, hospitals their places are in turn filled by the industrious who beg for work and not for bread." This is a serious charge indeed against our boasted modern civilization. If it were true it would mean nothing less than the ultimate, and perhaps not remote, undermining and collapse of the whole social structure that has been built up through many centuries of labor and experiment.

But of course it is not true; and here are a couple of new facts that, so far as our country is concerned, so very far toward disproving it. They are brought to notice by Mr. William C. Hunt in the July Bulletin of the Department of Labor, under the heading of "Workers at Gainful Occupations." He shows us that the number of children employed for wages decreased nearly one-half during the last Federal census. The number of children in gainful occupations in 1870 was 73,154, in 1880 it was 31,829 and in 1890 it was only 60,028. In part, no doubt, this change is due to legislation restricting child employment and to the discovery by employers that the cost of child labor is not really cheap. But in so large a decrease in the number of working children at the same time that the population has been increasing we have pretty good evidence that the condition of the poorer classes is at least growing no worse, that their struggle for subsistence is not growing more severe, that the necessity of putting every possible working member of the family at work is not becoming greater.

Bearing on this same point, Mr. Hunt also invites attention to the census figures which show the number of men engaged in four general classes of every hundred engaged in gainful occupations at different periods, which these figures show that the number of professional men, capitalists, business men and farmers working for themselves increased from 25.9 in each hundred workers in 1870 to 33.74 in 1880 and to 35.4 in 1890; that the proportion of clerks, salesmen, agents, etc., increased from 2.54 in 1870 to 3.87 in 1880 and to 4.29 in 1890; that the proportion of more or less skilled laborers increased from 17.41 in 1870 to 18.13 in 1880 and to 18.67 in 1890; while the proportion of unskilled labor, farm labor, etc., decreased from 46.13 in 1870 to 44.26 in 1880 and to 43.25 in 1890. As will be seen we have here an increase in the proportion of men engaged in the better paid occupations and a decrease in the proportion of those working at more poorly paid tasks. And surely when a larger proportion of us work for higher pay than used to be the fact it cannot be said that poverty is increasing in either extent or intensity.

THE COUNTY TICKET.

From the Carbondale Leader.

The Republican county ticket may not please every member of the party, but even those who desire the nomination of other men must concede that it is a good ticket; that is, it is composed of respectable men, loyal to the party, and well qualified for the various positions. Besides, it was fairly nominated after a hard struggle. It must be taken as an honest expression of the wishes of the Republican voters.

The Republicans of this city feel that they have received due recognition in the selection of their party ticket. It is a ticket for one of the most important offices, and will show that feeling by giving him cordial support.

That the ticket will be triumphantly elected in November does not admit of a doubt.

A Model of Aemul.

From the Carbondale Herald.

The ticket nominated by the Republicans at their county convention Tuesday last is a fine one. It is a ticket of men who are not only men of high character, but also men of high ability. There is no doubt but the Republican convention named the very strongest ticket possible. The personnel is of a high order. The candidates are individuals of a high character, and even in some cases are calculated to arouse the enthusiasm of the party elsewhere. In coming to Carbondale for a candidate the convention showed good sense, and it again displayed excellent judgment in selecting the best man. It is doubtful if it could have done better.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

THE WAVE OF PROSPERITY

So long looked for, so earnestly hoped for, has reached us at last. Times are better. Reports from all over the country tell us of work being resumed. The farmer will get good prices for his produce, everybody is hopeful and confident of the future. All this means more dry goods money to spend. How to spend it and where to spend it to the best advantage, are questions that we shall answer in these columns and over our counters to your entire satisfaction.

YOUR HANDKERCHIEF ECONOMY

Is strongly appealed to in the following lots. Met an importer who needed money, that explains the difference between the value and the price. Good time to stock up, because you will pay double the price after they are gone.

- 200 dozen Scalloped Embroidered and Hemstitched Handkerchiefs. Sale price 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents
300 dozen of very choice Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs, the regular 25 cent kind. Sale price 12 1/2 cents
100 dozen of the very finest Swiss Embroidered, also Lace Inserted Handkerchiefs in the newest designs, value 50 cents. Sale price 25 cents

You are welcome to as few or as many of them as you want.

FINLEY'S Before Buying Fall And Winter Clothing See our line now arriving. It surpasses all past efforts and represents novelties that are absolutely exclusive, as well as all the staples made by the best tailors in the clothing world. Everybody buys at the same price. BOYLE & MUCKLOW 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

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